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SECURITY INFORMATION

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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1. On 4 April 1953 Shakir Abu-Kishik, ex-Mufti supporter and refugee leader in the Tulkarm area, stated that the refugees will never approve of a peace treaty with the Israelis. Such action in essence would mean the recognition of the legal existence of Israel by the Arabs. Abu-Kishik pointed out that recognition would be followed by commercial expansion which would pave the way for eventual Israeli territorial expansion at the expense of the Arabs. According to Abu-Kishik, such a step would also entail renunciation of the rights of the refugees to return to their former homes.
2. Abu-Kishik maintained that the refugees are in a better position today than at any time since 1948 because of the increasing concern of the United States and Great Britain over the effect of the refugees on the stability of the Middle East. Abu-Kishik further stated that the changes in the regimes in Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Lebanon occurred as a result of the Palestine and refugee problems.

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